

Hearing Date: August 4, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. (ET) / 9:30 a.m. (AST)
Objection Deadline: April 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. (ET) / 4:00 p.m. (AST)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

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In re: :
THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND : PROMESA
MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO, : Title III
as representative of : Case No. 17-BK-3283 (LTS)
THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO, *et al.*, : (Jointly Administered)
Debtors.¹ :
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NOTICE OF HEARING ON NINTH INTERIM FEE APPLICATION OF KROMA
ADVERTISING, INC., AS COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR TO OFFICIAL
COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS, FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES FOR PERIOD FROM
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 15, 2021

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing on the annexed *Ninth Interim Fee Application of Kroma Advertising, Inc., as Communications Advisor to Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors, for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses for Period from September 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021* (the “Application”) filed by the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the “Committee”),² pursuant to section 1103(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code,

¹ The Debtors in these Title III Cases, along with each Debtor’s respective Title III case number and the last four (4) digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, as applicable, are the (i) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3283- LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3481); (ii) Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (“COFINA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3284-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 8474); (iii) Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (“HTA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3567-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3808); (iv) Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (“ERS”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3566-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 9686); (v) Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (“PREPA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17- BK-4780-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3747); and (vi) Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority (“PBA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 19-BK-5233-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3801) (Title III case numbers are listed as Bankruptcy Case numbers due to software limitations).

² The Committee is the official committee of unsecured creditors for all Title III Debtors, other than PBA and COFINA.

made applicable to these cases by section 301 of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act of 2016 (“PROMESA”), will be held before the Honorable Laura Taylor Swain, United States District Court Judge, at the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico, in Room 3, 150 Carlos Chardón Street, Federal Building, Office 150, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00918-1767 on **August 4, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. (ET) / 9:30 a.m. (AST)** (the “Hearing”).

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that any responses or objections (“Objections”) to the Application by any party other than the Fee Examiner shall be in writing, shall conform to the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure and the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the District of Puerto Rico, shall be filed with the Court (a) by attorneys practicing in the District Court, including attorneys admitted *pro hac vice*, electronically in accordance with rule 5 of the Local Rules for the District of Puerto Rico, and (b) by all other parties in interest, by submitting a hard copy via mail to the Clerk’s Office, United States District Court, Room 150 Federal Building, San Juan, PR 00918-1767 or by hand delivery to the Clerk’s Office, United States District Court, 150 Carlos Chardon Avenue, Room 150, San Juan, PR 00918, to the extent applicable, and shall be served in accordance with the *Second Amended Order Setting Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* [Docket No. 3269] (the “Interim Compensation Order”), so as to be so filed and received by the Notice Parties (as defined in the Interim Compensation Order) no later than **April 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. (ET) / 4:00 p.m. (AST)** (the “Objection Deadline”).

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PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that, in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order, if no Objections are timely filed, and if the Fee Examiner issues the Fee Examiner Report (as defined in the Interim Compensation Order) recommending approval of the Application in full or in part, the Court may grant the Application without a hearing.

Dated: March 15, 2021

/s/ G. Alexander Bongartz

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- and -

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Local Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

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Objection Deadline: April 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. (ET) / 4:00 p.m. (AST)

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO**

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In re: :
THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND :
MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO, : PROMESA
as representative of : Title III
THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO, *et al.*, : Case No. 17-BK-3283 (LTS)
Debtors.¹ : (Jointly Administered)
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**NINTH INTERIM FEE APPLICATION OF KROMA ADVERTISING, INC., AS
COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR TO OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED
CREDITORS, FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES
FOR PERIOD FROM SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 15, 2021**

SUMMARY COVER SHEET

Name of applicant:	Kroma Advertising, Inc. (“ <u>Kroma</u> ”)
Authorized to provide professional services to:	Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the “ <u>Committee</u> ”) ²
Date of retention:	Order entered February 22, 2018, effective as of February 1, 2018 [Docket No. 2572]

¹ T The Debtors in these Title III Cases, along with each Debtor’s respective Title III case number and the last four (4) digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, as applicable, are the (i) Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3283- LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3481); (ii) Puerto Rico Sales Tax Financing Corporation (“COFINA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3284-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 8474); (iii) Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (“HTA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3567-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3808); (iv) Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (“ERS”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17-BK-3566-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 9686); (v) Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (“PREPA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 17- BK-4780-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3747); and (vi) Puerto Rico Public Buildings Authority (“PBA”) (Bankruptcy Case No. 19-BK-5233-LTS) (Last Four Digits of Federal Tax ID: 3801) (Title III case numbers are listed as Bankruptcy Case numbers due to software limitations).

² The Committee is the official committee of unsecured creditors for all Title III Debtors, other than PBA and COFINA.

Period for which compensation and reimbursement are sought:	September 16, 2020 through and including January 15, 2021 (the " <u>Application Period</u> ")
Amount of interim compensation sought as actual, reasonable, and necessary:	\$95,000.00
Amount of interim expense reimbursement sought as actual, reasonable, and necessary:	\$0.00
Are your fee or expense totals different from the sum of previously-served monthly statements for the Application Period?	No.
Compensation sought in this Application already paid pursuant to a monthly compensation order but not yet allowed:	\$0.00
Expenses sought in this Application already paid pursuant to a monthly compensation order but not yet allowed:	\$0.00
Total compensation approved by interim order to date:	\$730,000.00
Total expenses approved by interim order to date:	\$23,719.51
Total allowed compensation paid to date:	\$728,000.00
Total allowed expenses paid to date:	\$23,719.51

MONTHLY FEE REQUESTS TO DATE

Date Submitted	Monthly Period Covered	Requested Fees (90%)	Requested Expenses (100%)	Fees Paid	Expenses Paid	10% Fee Holdback
Interim Fee Period: February 15, 2018 through April 15, 2018						
4/25/18	2/15/18 - 3/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
6/1/18	3/16/18 - 4/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$19,509.35	\$30,000.00	\$19,509.35	\$3,000.00
Total		\$54,000.00	\$19,509.35	\$60,000.00	\$19,509.35	\$6,000.00
Interim Fee Period: April 16, 2018 through September 15, 2018						
8/24/18	4/16/18 - 5/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
8/24/18	5/16/18 - 6/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
8/24/18	6/16/18 - 7/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$4,210.16	\$30,000.00	\$4,210.16	\$3,000.00
9/24/18	7/16/18 - 8/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
11/8/18	8/16/18 - 9/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$135,000.00	\$4,210.16	\$150,000.00	\$4,210.16	\$15,000.00
Interim Fee Period: September 16, 2018 through January 15, 2019						
11/21/18	9/16/18 - 10/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
1/16/19	10/16/18 - 11/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
2/19/19	11/16/18 - 12/15/18	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
3/14/19	12/16/18 - 1/15/19	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$108,000.00	\$0.00	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$12,000.00
Interim Fee Period: January 16, 2019 through May 15, 2019						
4/15/19	1/16/19 - 2/15/19	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
5/30/19	2/16/19 - 3/15/19	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00

Date Submitted	Monthly Period Covered	Requested Fees (90%)	Requested Expenses (100%)	Fees Paid	Expenses Paid	10% Fee Holdback
7/3/19	3/16/19 - 4/15/19	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
7/15/19	4/16/19 - 5/15/19	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$108,000.00	\$0.00	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$12,000.00
Interim Fee Period: May 16, 2019 through September 15, 2019						
8/27/19	5/16/19 - 6/15/19	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
10/4/19	6/16/19 - 7/15/19	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
11/13/19	7/16/19 - 8/15/19	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
11/14/19	8/16/19 - 9/15/19	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Total		\$85,500.00	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,500.00
Interim Fee Period: September 16, 2019 through January 15, 2020						
12/23/19	9/16/19 - 10/15/19	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
1/20/20	10/16/19 - 11/15/19	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
3/3/20	11/16/19 - 12/15/19	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
3/13/20	12/16/19 - 1/15/20	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$63,000.00	\$0.00	\$70,000.00	\$0.00	\$7,000.00
Interim Fee Period: January 16, 2020 through May 15, 2020						
5/11/20	1/16/20 - 2/15/20	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
6/8/20	2/16/20 - 3/15/20	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
7/8/20	3/16/20 - 4/15/20	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
7/14/20	4/16/20 - 5/15/20	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Total		\$85,500.00	\$0.00	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	\$9,500.00

Date Submitted	Monthly Period Covered	Requested Fees (90%)	Requested Expenses (100%)	Fees Paid	Expenses Paid	10% Fee Holdback
Interim Fee Period: May 16, 2020 through September 15, 2020						
9/24/20	5/16/20 - 6/15/20	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
9/25/20	6/16/20 - 7/15/20	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
10/20/20	7/16/20 - 8/15/20	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
11/13/20	8/16/20 - 9/15/20	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Total		\$18,000.00	\$0.00	\$18,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Interim Fee Period: September 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021						
12/23/20	9/16/20 - 10/15/20	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
1/13/21	10/16/20 - 11/15/20	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
3/11/21	11/16/20 - 12/15/20	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
3/12/21	12/16/20 - 1/15/21	\$27,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Total		\$85,500.00	\$0.00	\$31,500.00	\$0.00	\$9,500.00

PRIOR INTERIM FEE APPLICATIONS

Date Filed [Docket No.]	Application Period Covered	Requested Fees	Requested Expenses	Order [Docket No.]	Fees Allowed and Paid	Expenses Allowed and Paid
7/16/18 Docket No. 3566	2/15/18 - 4/15/18	\$60,000.00	\$19,509.35	Docket No. 4200	Allowed: \$60,000.00 Paid: \$60,000.00 Authorized to be paid: \$60,000.00	Allowed: \$19,509.35 Paid: \$19,509.35 Authorized to be paid: \$19,509.35
11/16/18 Docket No. 4321	4/16/18 - 9/15/18	\$150,000.00	\$4,210.16	Docket No. 5654	Allowed: \$150,000.00 Paid: \$150,000.00 Authorized to be paid: \$150,000.00	Allowed: \$4,210.16 Paid: \$4,210.16 Authorized to be paid: \$4,210.16
3/18/19 Docket No. 5819	9/16/18 - 1/15/19	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	Docket No. 7670	Allowed: \$120,000.00 Paid: \$120,000.00 Authorized to be paid: \$120,000.00	N/A
7/15/19 Docket No. 8002	1/16/19 - 5/15/19	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	Docket No. 8753	Allowed: \$120,000.00 Paid: \$120,000.00 Authorized to be paid: \$120,000.00	N/A
11/15/19 Docket No. 9216	5/16/19- 9/15/19	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	Docket No. 12157	Allowed: \$95,000.00 Paid: \$95,000.00 Authorized to be paid: \$95,000.00	N/A

3/16/20 Docket No. 12390	9/16/19- 1/15/20	\$70,000.00	\$0.00	Docket No. 13824	Allowed: \$70,000.00 Paid: \$70,000.00 Authorized to be paid: \$70,000.00	N/A
7/15/20 Docket No. 13680	1/16/20- 5/15/20	\$95,000.00	\$0.00	Docket No. 14925	Allowed: \$95,000.00 Paid: \$95,000.00 Authorized to be paid: \$95,000.00	N/A
11/16/20 Docket No. 15158	5/16/20- 9/15/20	\$20,000.00	\$0.00	Docket No. 15971	Allowed: \$20,000.00 Paid: \$18,000.00 Authorized to be paid: \$20,000.00	N/A

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO**

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In re:	:	
	:	
THE FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT AND	:	PROMESA
MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR PUERTO RICO,	:	Title III
	:	
as representative of	:	Case No. 17-BK-3283 (LTS)
	:	
THE COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO, <i>et al.</i> ,	:	(Jointly Administered)
	:	
Debtors. ¹	:	
	X	

**NINTH INTERIM FEE APPLICATION OF KROMA ADVERTISING, INC., AS
COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR TO OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED
CREDITORS, FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES
FOR PERIOD FROM SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 THROUGH JANUARY 15, 2021**

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SUPPORTING SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 MONTHLY STATEMENTS COVERED IN APPLICATION

SCHEDULE 2 PROPOSED ORDER

To the Honorable United States District Judge Laura Taylor Swain:

Kroma Advertising, Inc. (“Kroma”), communications advisor to Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the “Committee”),¹ for its application (the “Application”), pursuant to sections 316 and 317 of the Puerto Rico Oversight, Management and Economic Stability Act of 2016 (“PROMESA”),² section 503(b) of title 11, United States Code (the “Bankruptcy Code”) as made applicable to these cases by section 301(a) of PROMESA, Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”), and Rule 2016-1 of the Local Bankruptcy Rules for the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Puerto Rico (the “Local Rules”), for the interim allowance of compensation for professional services performed by Kroma for the period from September 16, 2020 through and including January 15, 2021 (the “Application Period”), and for reimbursement of its actual and necessary expenses incurred during the Application Period, respectfully represents:

BACKGROUND

1. On May 3, 2017, the Oversight Board commenced a Title III case for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico by filing a voluntary petition for relief pursuant to section 304(a) of PROMESA (the “Commonwealth Title III Case”). Thereafter, the Oversight Board commenced a Title III case for each of COFINA, the Employees Retirement System of the Government of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico (the “ERS Title III Case”), the Puerto Rico Highways and Transportation Authority (the “HTA Title III Case”), and the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (the “PREPA Title III Case,” and together with the Commonwealth Title III

¹ The Committee is the official committee of unsecured creditors for all Title III Debtors, other than PBA and COFINA.

² References to PROMESA are references to 48 U.S.C. §§ 2101 *et. seq.*

Case, the ERS Title III Case, and the HTA Title III Case, the “Title III Cases”).³ By orders dated June 29, 2017 [Docket No. 537] and October 6, 2017 [Docket No. 1417], the Court approved the joint administration of the Title III Cases.

2. On June 15, 2017, the Office of the United States Trustee for the District of Puerto Rico (the “U.S. Trustee”) appointed the Committee as the official committee for the Commonwealth [Docket No. 338]. On August 25, 2017, the U.S. Trustee filed an *Amended Notice of Appointment of Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors* [Docket No. 1171], which expanded the role of the Committee to be the official committee for the HTA Title III Case, the ERS Title III Case, and the PREPA Title III Case.

3. On August 23, 2017, the Court entered the *Order Setting Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* (as amended, the “Interim Compensation Order”).⁴ On October 6, 2017, the Court entered the *Order Pursuant to PROMESA Sections 316 and 317 and Bankruptcy Code Section 105(a) Appointing a Fee Examiner and Related Relief* [Docket No. 1416] (the “Fee Examiner Order”). The Court appointed Brady Williamson as the Fee Examiner in the Title III Cases.

4. On January 25, 2018, the Committee selected Kroma as its communications advisor. On February 1, 2018, the Committee filed an application to retain and employ Kroma as communications advisor, effective February 1, 2018 [Docket No. 2325] (the “Retention Application”). By order of this Court entered February 22, 2018 [Docket No. 2572] (the “Retention Order”), incorporated herein by this reference, Kroma’s retention as communications advisor to the Committee was approved effective as of February 1, 2018.

³ Unless otherwise indicated, references to docket numbers shall be to the docket of the Commonwealth Title III Case.

⁴ The Interim Compensation Order was most recently amended on June 6, 2018 [Docket No. 3269].

5. The Retention Order authorized Kroma to be compensated on a monthly basis at a flat monthly rate of \$30,000 and be reimbursed for actual and necessary out-of-pocket expenses pursuant to sections 316 and 317 of PROMESA, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Local Rules, and such orders as the Court may direct. The Retention Order further provides that “[p]ursuant to Bankruptcy Code section 503(b)(1), made applicable by PROMESA section 301(a), the fees and expenses of Kroma under this Order shall be an administrative expense of the Debtors.” In September 2019, Kroma and the Committee agreed, pursuant to an amendment to Kroma’s engagement letter, that Kroma’s flat monthly rate would be reduced from \$30,000 to \$5,000, effective as of August 16, 2019. Under the amendment, in the event the Committee determines, in its sole discretion, that in any particular month Kroma provides services in a materially higher amount than in previous months, the Committee may increase the monthly compensation to be received by Kroma for that particular month up to \$30,000. Pursuant to this agreement, the Committee increased Kroma’s compensation from \$5,000 to \$30,000 for the period of November 16, 2019 through April 15, 2020 given Kroma’s increased services during these months.

6. On July 16, 2018, Kroma filed its first interim fee application with respect to the period from February 15, 2018 through April 15, 2018 [Docket No. 3566] (the “First Interim Fee Application”). The compensation requested in the First Interim Fee Application was allowed pursuant to this Court’s order awarding interim allowance of compensation entered on November 9, 2018 [Docket No. 4200].

7. On November 16, 2018, Kroma filed its second interim fee application with respect to the period from April 16, 2018 through September 15, 2018 [Docket No. 4321] (the “Second Interim Fee Application”). The compensation requested in the Second Interim Fee

Application was allowed pursuant to this Court's order awarding interim allowance of compensation entered on March 14, 2019 [Docket No. 5654].

8. On March 18, 2019, Kroma filed its third interim fee application with respect to the period from September 16, 2018 through January 15, 2019 [Docket No. 5819] (the "Third Interim Fee Application"). The compensation requested in the Third Interim Fee Application was allowed pursuant to this Court's order awarding interim allowance of compensation entered on June 26, 2019 [Docket No. 7670].

9. On July 15, 2019, Kroma filed its fourth interim fee application with respect to the period from January 16, 2019 through May 15, 2019 [Docket No. 8002] (the "Fourth Interim Fee Application"). The compensation requested in the Fourth Interim Fee Application was allowed pursuant to this Court's order awarding interim allowance of compensation entered on September 25, 2019 [Docket No. 8753].

10. On November 15, 2019, Kroma filed its fifth interim fee application with respect to the period from May 16, 2019 to September 15, 2019 [Docket No. 9216] (the "Fifth Interim Fee Application"). The compensation requested in the Fifth Interim Fee Application was allowed pursuant to this Court's order awarding interim allowance of compensation entered on March 6, 2020 [Docket No. 12157].

11. On March 16, 2020, Kroma filed its sixth interim fee application with respect to the period from September 16, 2019 through January 15, 2020 [Docket No. 12390] (the "Sixth Interim Fee Application"). The compensation requested in the Sixth Interim Fee Application was allowed pursuant to this Court's order awarding interim allowance of compensation entered on July 24, 2020 [Docket No. 13824].

12. On July 15, 2020, Kroma filed its seventh interim fee application with respect to the period from January 16, 2020 through May 15, 2020 [Docket No. 13680] (the “Seventh Interim Fee Application”). The compensation requested in the Seventh Interim Fee Application was allowed pursuant to this Court’s order awarding interim allowance of compensation entered on October 26, 2020 [Docket No. 14925].

13. On November 16, 2020, Kroma filed its eighth interim fee application with respect to the period from May 16, 2020 through September 15, 2020 [Docket No. 15158] (the “Eighth Interim Fee Application”). The compensation requested in the Eighth Interim Fee Application was allowed pursuant to this Court’s order awarding interim allowance of compensation entered on March 8, 2021 [Docket No. 15971].

14. This is Kroma’s ninth interim fee application, covering the period from September 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021. All services for which compensation is requested were performed for or on behalf of the Committee.

COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT REQUEST

15. By this Application, Kroma seeks allowance of compensation for professional services rendered to the Committee during the Application Period in the aggregate amount of \$95,000.00.

16. The Committee has approved the amounts requested by Kroma for services performed and expenses incurred in each of the monthly statements submitted to, among others, the Oversight Board, AAFAF, the Fee Examiner, and the U.S. Trustee.

17. With respect to the Application Period, Kroma is still awaiting payment of (i) \$54,000, which represents 90% of its fees for services rendered from November 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021 and (ii) \$9,500.00, which represents the 10% “hold-back” portion of

Kroma's Application Period fees. In addition, Kroma has yet to receive the 10% "hold-back for the prior application period (i.e., May 16, 2020 through September 15, 2020), in the aggregate amount of \$2,000.00.

18. Other than payments made in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order, Kroma has received no payment and no promises of payment from any source for services rendered during the Application Period. By this Application, Kroma requests allowance of all fees and expenses incurred for services rendered during the Application Period. At this time, however, Kroma seeks payment of only (a) 90% of the fees for services invoiced during the Application Period and (b) 100% of expenses invoiced during the Application Period.

19. There is no agreement or understanding between Kroma and any other person, other than the employees and staff of Kroma, for the sharing of compensation to be received for services rendered in these cases.

20. To the extent that monthly fee or disbursement charges for services rendered or disbursements incurred relate to the Application Period, but were not processed before the preparation of this Application, or Kroma has for any other reason not sought compensation or reimbursement with respect to such services or expenses, Kroma reserves the right to request additional compensation for such services, and reimbursement of such expenses, in a supplemental or future application.

SUMMARY OF SERVICES

21. During the Application Period, Kroma assisted and advised the Committee in a number of key areas.

22. First, Kroma continued to assist the Committee with its communications strategy by, among other things, maintaining and updating the Committee's website to keep unsecured

creditors apprised of recent developments. Among the recent developments that have impacted the Committee's constituents was the recent elections in Puerto Rico, which resulted in the election of new officials, including Governor Pedro Pierluisi. In connection with these electoral events, Kroma strategized about outreach efforts. As part of this work, Kroma analyzed the election results for the Committee. Relatedly, it also communicated on behalf of the Committee with certain government officials.

23. In addition, Kroma provided the Committee with other valuable communications services, including but not limited to monitoring Puerto Rico media, providing translations of press materials, and advising the Committee and its advisors with respect to public relations issues. Given ongoing media interest in restructuring matters and the increasing focus on the plan of adjustment, this assistance was highly valuable during the Application Period.

* * *

24. The foregoing professional services were necessary and appropriate to the administration of the Title III Cases and were in the best interests of the Committee, the Debtors, the creditors, and other parties in interest.

ACTUAL AND NECESSARY DISBURSEMENTS

25. Kroma did not disburse any expenses during the period from September 16, 2020 through January 15, 2021.

REQUESTED COMPENSATION SHOULD BE ALLOWED

26. Section 316 of PROMESA provides for the compensation of professionals. Specifically, section 316 provides that a court may award a professional employed by a committee under section 1103 of the Bankruptcy Code "reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services rendered . . . and reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses." PROMESA

§ 316(a). Section 316 also sets forth the criteria for the award of such compensation and reimbursement:

- (a) In determining the amount of reasonable compensation to be awarded to a professional person, the court shall consider the nature, the extent, and the value of such services, taking into account all relevant factors, including:
 - (i) the time spent on such services;
 - (ii) the rates charged for such services;
 - (iii) whether the services were necessary to the administration of, or beneficial at the time at which the service was rendered toward the completion of, a case under this chapter;
 - (iv) whether the services were performed within a reasonable amount of time commensurate with the complexity, importance, and nature of the problem, issue, or task addressed;
 - (v) with respect to a professional person, whether the person is board certified or otherwise has demonstrated skill and experience in the restructuring field; and
 - (vi) whether the compensation is reasonable based on the customary compensation charged by comparably skilled practitioners in cases other than cases under this title or title 11, United States Code.

PROMESA § 316(c). Further, section 317 of PROMESA provides that “a committee . . . may apply to the court not more than once every 120 days . . . for such compensation for services rendered”

27. In the instant case, Kroma respectfully submits that the services for which it seeks compensation in this Application were, at the time rendered, believed to be necessary for and beneficial to the Committee, the Debtors, and their stakeholders and were rendered to protect, preserve, and maximize value for unsecured creditors during the pendency of the Title III Cases. The services rendered to the Committee were performed in an economic, effective, and efficient

manner commensurate with the complexity and importance of the issues involved. The results obtained to date have benefited not only the Committee but also the Debtors, their stakeholders, and other interested parties. Accordingly, the compensation requested herein is reasonable in light of the nature, extent, and value of such services to the Committee, the Debtors, and all parties in interest.

NOTICE

28. In accordance with the Interim Compensation Order, Kroma will provide notice of this Application to (i) the attorneys for the Oversight Board, Proskauer Rose LLP and O'Neill & Borges LLC; (ii) the attorneys for the Puerto Rico Fiscal Agency and Financial Advisory Authority, O'Melveny & Myers LLP and Marini Pietrantonio Muñiz LLC; (iii) the Office of the United States Trustee for the District of Puerto Rico; (iv) the attorneys for the Official Committee of Retired Employees, Jenner & Block LLP and Bennazar, García & Milián, C.S.P.; (v) the Puerto Rico Department of Treasury; (vi) the Fee Examiner, Brady Williamson; and (vii) counsel to the Fee Examiner, Godfrey & Kahn, S.C. and EDGE Legal Strategies, PSC. In addition, the notice of hearing with respect to this Application will be served on all parties that have filed a notice of appearance in the Title III Cases.

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CONCLUSION

Kroma respectfully requests entry of an order, substantially in the form attached hereto as Schedule 2, (i) allowing interim compensation for professional services rendered during the Application Period in the amount of \$95,000 representing 100% of the fees billed during the Application Period; (ii) authorizing and directing the Debtors' payment of the difference between the sum of 90% of the fees allowed plus 100% of the expenses allowed and the amounts previously paid by the Debtors pursuant to the Interim Compensation Order; (iii) allowing such compensation and payment for professional services rendered and reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred be without prejudice to Kroma's right to seek such further compensation and/or payment for the full value of services performed and expenses incurred; and (iv) granting Kroma such other and further relief as is just.

Dated: March 15, 2021



Anthony Román Pagan

Comptroller

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